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from ambiguity, as well as the French words likewise in brackets, which are readily found in the French text, had been left out altogether or placed at the bottom of the page, leaving the text clear. These however are minor blemishes in a good piece of work. The enterprise of the Champlain Society in publishing rare works elucidating the history of French exploration and occupation of what is now British North America is to be highly commended, and especially the excellent manner in which their task is being accomplished. The present volume is a praiseworthy specimen of book-making, and should be sought by all lovers of historical books.

JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER.

La Intervencion Francesa en México, segun el Archivo del Mariscal Bazaine. [Documentos Inéditos ó muy Raros para la Historia de México, edited by GENARO GARCÍA. Tomo XVII.] (Mexico: Bouret. 1908. Pp. 284.)

La Intervencion Francesa en México, segun el Archivo del Mariscal Bazaine. [Documentos Inéditos ó muy Raros para la Historia de México, edited by GENARO GARCÍA. Tomo XVIII.] (Mexico: Bouret. 1908. Pp. 275.)

THESE two volumes of documents selected from the papers of Marshal Bazaine carry on the presentation of material from the date reached in two earlier volumes of the same series, November 20, 1863, to April 21, 1864. Their subject-matter grows in interest as they deal more fully with the relations of Bazaine and his Mexican puppets and adversaries. The inherent difficulties of the intervention, the elements of weakness which foredoomed the enterprise to failure, are unconsciously revealed in negotiations with liberal leaders, in accounts of military expeditions, in controversies with the clerical party. But it will be a disappointment to the careful student that these documents contain so little frank confidential correspondence of the leading actors. For that class of material one must still wait for further revelations to supplement earlier publications by Lefèvre, Gaulot, Randon, Loizillon and others. Also one wonders why the present collection does not contain important letters which would naturally find a place in it—for example, that from Napoleon to Bazaine, February 15, 1864 (Gaulot, pp. 246-247), and those from Randon to Bazaine in March and May, 1864 (Gaulot, pp. 258-264).

Señor García shows great interest in impeaching the accuracy and good faith of the work of Gaulot in this field. The preface of volume XVII. is mostly given up to a discussion of this topic, and a certain letter from Señor Lerdo to Señor Saborio is reproduced in facsimile to make the argument clearer. Editorial deficiencies of Señor García himself, which were pointed out in the July number of the REVIEW,

and which are but slightly reformed in these later volumes, detract somewhat from the weight of his indictment against M. Gaulot, yet the evidence merits candid consideration. It is no part of the function of the reviewer to essay a defense of M. Gaulot, but a judgment may be expressed that the charge of falsification of documents is not clearly proven. May not the comparison made by Señor García between the Bazaine letter as printed by Gaulot (p. 204) and the Boyer letter as printed by himself (pp. 68-72) simply indicate that the former is Bazaine's letter to his chief of staff to be used as a basis for Boyer's communication to Saborio? Apart from the question of M. Gaulot's use of documents, a certain interest attaches to the substantial issue involved: Did Bazaine make overtures to Lerdo through Saborio? Or, did Lerdo, an important member of the Juárez government, use Saborio to open negotiations with Bazaine? These documents hardly afford a conclusive answer. Venality and vacillation of Mexican anti-interventionists were matched by such compromising and devious expedients of the French that the truth could emerge only by far more detailed presentation of evidence than Señor García gives.

With all its shortcomings the series in which these volumes appear is one of great historical interest, and future issues will be welcomed by all students of the period which they cover.

C. A. DUNIWAY.

South America on the Eve of Emancipation. The Southern Spanish Colonies in the Last Half-Century of their Dependence. By BERNARD MOSES, Ph.D., LL.D., Professor in the University of California. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1908. Pp. v, 356.)

THIS volume is a natural sequel to the author's *Establishment of Spanish Rule in America*. Like its predecessor it is a collection of essays on related topics rather than a comprehensive treatise. In the former book Professor Moses dealt with the institutions by which Spain governed all her American colonies, while in the present volume he has treated certain phases of the administration of Peru, Chile and Argentina during the latter half of the eighteenth century and the first decade of the nineteenth. Without making any attempt to exhaust the subject, Professor Moses has succeeded in giving excellent pictures of life and institutions in the pre-revolutionary era. His method is to portray selected characters in the final drama of Spanish rule and to give these characters an appropriate background. Viceroyes and captains-general, bishops, priests and inquisitors, *encomenderos* and *corregidores*, Indians and negroes, have been given their proper garb; typical provinces, cities and societies have been selected and described; and the most important events of the period narrated in some detail. In a word we have life-like actors, suitable scenery and interesting acts.